

2003 Report of Accomplishments

Grays Harbor Conservation District



Natural Resource Improvements in 2003 – Summary

- Inspected past projects and verified that 142 miles of fencing and riparian buffers were still in place and functioning
- Provided \$77,087.00 in cost share to five dairy producers to implement required BMP's necessary for certification
- Provided \$2,732.38 in cost share to small farm owner to install 1'250' of fencing with an average setback of 80' for livestock exclusion
- Completed CREP project implementation installing 5,260 linear ft. of livestock exclusion fencing, planting 8180 trees with an average setback of 182 ft. or 19.8 acres



Mission of the Grays Harbor Conservation District

- To protect, preserve, and enhance the many natural resources in our District and to promote the implementation of environmental practices proven to meet these goals.

Water Quality Implementation

- Assessed 142 miles of previous riparian projects completed since 1994. Projects include livestock exclusion and riparian buffers. 99% of previously installed practices are still in place and functioning for 140.5 miles of protected waterways
- Provided \$79,819.21 in cost share to 6 operators. Predominance of funding was used by 5 dairy operators to improve utilization and application of dairy nutrients to fields thus protecting ground and surface water from contamination by implementing 10 BMP's. Also installed 1.250' of woven fencing with an average setback of 80' for livestock exclusion.

Dairy

- 3 new Dairy Nutrient Management Plans were developed, reviewed, and approved
- 2 Dairy Nutrient Management Plans were certified
- Conducted soil and water testing to illustrate that proper management of nutrients can result in zero impact to water quality. Our soil test results showed that leachate from nutrient applications was minimal at worst and nonexistent in most cases. Our water test results showed that under most conditions the water leaving our dairies was cleaner than the water that entered them.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

- Completed one new riparian planting project with 5260' of livestock exclusion fencing installed and 8180 trees planted on 19.8 acres with an average setback of 182'.

Basic Funding

- This funding source is utilized to maintain basic District Operations not covered by grant sources. This includes salary for Office Manager

Community Collaboration & Coordination

- Member of Chehalis Basin Partnership serving on the Steering and Technical committee to evaluate issue papers, policies and procedures, and preparation of the Management Plan for the Chehalis River
- Assisted Noxious Weed Board and DNR on purple loosestrife infestation survey and control on the Chehalis River surge plain
- Worked with the Commercial Shellfish Growers Association concerning fecal coliform monitoring program within the Estuary and Chehalis River

Information & Education

- *Booth at Grays Harbor County Fair providing information and outreach to landowners concerning all District programs*
- *Presentations were made at the Farm Bureau on TMDL's and to the Noxious Weed Board and ESD 113 on water quality*
- *Assisted with presentation at ESD 113 student conference for 148 students. Topics covered included the student's current water monitoring programs, an evaluation of perceived problems, and possible solutions to water quality violations.*

